

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

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NHDOT EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATE IN "BIKE/WALK TO WORK DAY"
GOAL IS TO RAISE AWARENESS AND PROMOTE HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

They did more than just "talk the talk". Today more than 30 New Hampshire Department of Transportation employees "walked the walk" and rode their bicycles and walked to work in Concord from as far away as Hopkinton, Chichester and Loudon to participate in the May 16 national "Bike-to-Work Day". Many wore bright yellow T-shirts with the message "One Less Car" on their backs. Many others carpooled to work from longer distances.

"The goal of bike to work day is to raise awareness and acceptance of non-motorized transportation," says Tom Jameson, the State Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator who works in the NHDOT's Bureau of Transportation Planning. "We are encouraging people to try alternative means of transportation to get to work. Your commute can become your daily workout and the results are less congestion on the highways and less pollution".

Last year \$339 million was spent nationwide on bicycle and pedestrian projects, a 20-fold increase in 10 years.

"Bikes belong in our nation's transportation system," says Federal Highway Administrator Mary Peters. "In planning, designing, constructing, and operating our nation's transportation system, the needs of all users – and that clearly includes bicyclists – should be considered from the moment planning starts for a new project."

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation is currently working on a feasibility study for a transportation network for non-motorized users along the Salem to Concord transportation corridor. The study will outline a proposed network of paths, rails to trails, and bike lanes along shared roadways to provide for non-motorized travel along the 40-mile corridor.

Next week (May 22) the NHDOT and the Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Advisory Board will host the 5th annual Bike and Walk NH Conference in Waterville Valley. For more information, including New Hampshire bike/ped maps, interested persons can access the NHDOT's bicycle and pedestrian web site at www.nhbikeped.com.

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